

IN COMMERCE AND FINANCE

Happenings That Throw Light on Present and Prospective Business Conditions.

Of paramount importance in the commercial and financial news of the week are the preliminary steps toward a \$100,000,000 gold pool for the relief of the foreign exchange situation, the successful placing of the \$100,000,000 loan of the city of New York and the decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission to reopen the 5 per cent. freight rate case. These favorable omens in the business world were further augmented by the lifting of the ban on trading in New York, Boston, Baltimore and Philadelphia, providing that salesmen may be sent out to solicit business for listed and unlisted stocks and bonds.

Following the sanction of the Federal Reserve Board of the plan that the \$100,000,000 be raised to place the foreign exchange market on a firm basis, banks throughout the country came forward with the announcement that they stood ready to advance whatever amount was considered they should. This amount, it is believed, will only total about \$25,000,000, which will be placed in the Bank of England's Ottawa branch.

The \$100,000,000 loan in New York and the rapidity with which it was placed is one of the best indications of a gradual return to normal conditions. The loan was more than five times oversubscribed, and it is understood that foreigners, particularly British investors, put in bids for as large allotments as they could get.

Referring to the threat made by Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo that he would publish the names of banks hoarding emergency currency and would withdraw Government deposits from any banks found to be doing so, the New York World asserts that Secretary McAdoo is warning to the national banks against the extortionate use of emergency currency in a warranted interference by the Government in their practice.

On Monday Postmaster General Burleson announced that he had under consideration a plan to make the 2-cent rate for letter postage effective throughout the Western Hemisphere. This announcement is hailed with satisfaction among business men, who are now working to build up a South American trade.

The New York Times says on this subject: "Postal treaties and conventions looking to the establishment of an efficient money order service between the Central and South American countries, including the British, Danish, French and Dutch West Indies, should follow the measures already taken to improve existing facilities to merchants of this country in South American cities."

Further to increase the trade of the United States with South America, steps are being taken in Chicago for the organization of a \$5,000,000 banking and trading corporation. Trade experts during the week took a trip on a special train of the Lehigh Valley, telling the needs and prospects of Latin American trade.

The New York Sun holds that Americans at the present time are not adapted to trade relations in South America as the Germans and the French are, because of the fact that the latter are in language, manners, etiquette, both social and commercial, often in law by naturalization, Brazilians or Peruvians. Longer credit is another condition precedent to American trade in South America.

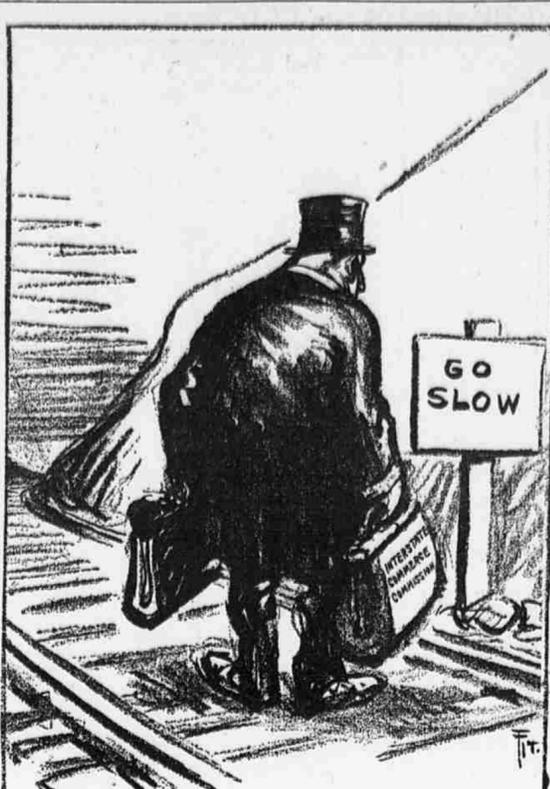
It is estimated that the total wheat production in the European war zone this year will be about 2,500,000,000 bushels, or \$25 per cent. of the year's crop. This should be encouraging to the American grain man, considering that this country will have a large surplus of wheat over her needs this year.

The cotton situation assumed a brighter aspect this week. Five Cotton Exchanges in the South, at Dallas, Memphis, Montgomery, New Orleans and Savannah opened. This showed a considerable buying of cotton throughout the country. New warehouses are now under construction to care for the cotton bought, and there is every indication that there will be ample room and a high price where it can be held until the price advances and there is a demand for it.

The Southern Cotton Association will meet in New Orleans next week, and it is probably name a minimum price at which cotton can be sold. The price now being held to is 16 cents a pound.

WATERWAYS AND PORK
On Monday evening, after a week of continuous fighting, the allied filibuster forces in the Senate overwhelmed the advocates of the rivers and harbors bill and forced them to an unconditional surrender. The majority of Senators who had been Democrats recommit the bill to the Commerce Committee with instructions to report a new bill carrying a total appropriation not exceeding \$2,000,000, was debated eight and a half hours.

Exactly a quorum. Sixteen Democrats and eleven Republicans voted to recommit the bill. Seventeen Democrats, four Republicans and one Democrat registered themselves as in favor of it as it stood.



St. Louis Post Dispatch.

"WHO, ME?"
Is not a time for reckless squandering of money which that money must be raised by extraordinary means, but it is not a time to abandon all its improvement work? Besides, "there are millions of men out of work, in times of depression, who can be made self-supporting if they can find employment in these public works."

The traveling convention of the Atlantic Deep-sea Waterways Association, the rivers and harbors bill was discussed. Mayor Mitchell, of New York, as well as the speakers who followed him, deplored the success of the filibuster and declared that it would work against the best interests of the country, especially at the time when the United States was reaching out for her share of the world's trade. While favoring economy in municipal and national government, he decried this movement to kill new waterway projects, and termed it unwise economy. Continuous inland waterway routes connecting Philadelphia, New York, Cape Cod Canal and Southern points by the means of a ship canal across the State of New Jersey were advocated.

EMERGENCY TAXATION
The war tax revenue bill, agreed upon by the Democrats of the Ways and Means Committee and framed in accordance with the President's suggestion that "such sources of revenue be chosen as will begin to yield at once and yield with a certain and constant flow," was introduced into the House of Representatives Monday. On the following day the committee presented its report, saying that "the necessity for this legislation grows out of the reduction of revenues derived from customs receipts, caused by the disturbed conditions resulting from the war in Europe."

It is estimated that the new taxes will bring \$100,000,000 into the Treasury in a year. In general, the measure follows the lines of the internal revenue laws of the Civil and Spanish Wars, but while it imposes many of the old and some new stamp taxes, it omits altogether bank checks, some other kinds of commercial paper, also medicines and perfumes. In place of these are taxes upon gasoline, kerosene, and sleeping car tickets and various kinds of wine. Beer pays less than heretofore, whiskey is ignored and tobacco's burden is not much changed.

Bankers, brokers and insurance companies are levied upon, and insurance policies and telegraph and telephone messages are included among sources of revenue. Republican opposition to the bill has been manifest in Congress and in the press since it was first proposed. The Boston Herald calls attention to the fact that Canada, which is a participant in the European struggle, is imposing a war tax no larger in proportion to our own. The Chicago Herald objects strenuously to the provision concerning insurance policies: "A tax on life and casualty insurance policies is a tax on small savings. Why don't the lawmakers put a tax on savings bank deposits and be done with it? They are doing about the same thing."

Limited praise for the bill is given in the New York World. In the remark that it does not increase the exactions upon incomes and omits wholly the mischievous idea of taxing domestic freight bills. Support and opposition, both in Congress and out of it, is divided on strictly partisan lines.

The principal criticism of the war tax measure is that it is wholly unnecessary. "The new tax is not a war tax," says the Brooklyn Citizen, "it is a tribute to Democratic incompetence and extravagance." The Albany Journal calls it a war tax in time of peace, and declares that Congress framed it in the hope of concealing the effects of "its free-trade policy. The proposal for the establishment of a taxation committee to which would be committed the entire subject of revenues by the Government, is seconded by the Ohio State Journal as the way out of such mistakes as that which now exists: "It will be forwarded when Congress yields its right to legislate for revenues, for then such laws will be based upon principle and not upon selfishness, which characterizes the field today."

Yesterday the war tax bill came up under a rule limiting debate to seven hours. This rule, reported from committee on Thursday, was denounced by the opposition as a "rag" rule.

The bill passed the House by a vote of 233 to 136.

THE CASE OF COLORADO
At the end of the first year of the Colorado coal and iron strike, September 23, the conference of operators virtually rejected the terms of truce drawn up by Secretary Wilson, of the Department of Labor, with the aid of a mine operator and a miner, submitted by the President to both parties in conflict and accepted by the strikers. Mr. Wilson, representative of the mine owners, gave President Wilson an acceptance of only a portion of the terms. The companies refused to

re-employ all striking miners not found guilty of violence, rejected the scheme for an impartial grievance committee, and claimed that they had never violated the "constitutional" mining laws of the State. The New York Evening Post, which like practically all organs of opinion, had rejected the acceptance of the truce, regretted the rejection "makes the prospect of a return to normal conditions less promising" and that the companies should show a lack of a "heartly and sincere desire to bring about a settlement."

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FOREIGN RELATIONS

The steamship Robert Dollar sailed from Rio de Janeiro, Wednesday, flying the British colors. Two weeks ago the Robert Dollar made application at Rio for a transfer of Canadian registry to American, under the registry law of August 15. The British Consul protested and the transfer was refused. The incident derives its importance from the expression of the British attitude toward President Wilson's plan for the purchase of foreign steamers to be operated by a government-controlled corporation. The President, on Thursday, said that the ship purchase bill would not be taken from the Administration's legislative calendar.

It was announced in Washington that President Wilson had determined to tolerate no longer the offensive public comments of foreign diplomatic representatives concerning matters of domestic concern. This announcement relates particularly to the alleged statements of Sir Lionel Carden, former British Minister to Mexico, criticizing our Government's Mexican policy. It is believed that the American Government has asked for Ruzem Bey's recall, or will do so, and that it will take official action with reference to the von Schoen and Carden interviews.

Russia and Sweden this week informed Washington of their intention to sign peace commission treaties with the United States. These treaties will be like those which have been negotiated with Great Britain, France, Spain, China and 22 other nations of the world, and which provide that all disputes which cannot be settled through the ordinary diplomatic channels shall be referred to a permanent commission, and that hostilities shall not begin within a year after such reference of the questions at issue.

PERTINENT PARAGRAPHS

The way Wilson maintains peace suggests that he would have been a holy terror on the firing line.—Columbia State.

Mrs. Young wants peace taught in the public schools. Incidentally, the school board might note that Chicago wants the public schools taught in peace.—Chicago Herald.

The German Emperor has conferred 16 iron crosses on his soldiers, and no telling how many of the other kind on the helpless ones at home. It is the way of war.—Nashville Banner.

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New York Sun.

THE MEXICAN UNREST

Mexico's restlessness is manifest again, and indications point to another revolution, unless it is prevented through President Wilson's moral intervention. The causes of the breach between Carranza and Villa date back to the latter days of the revolt which gave Carranza control of the Government and have to do principally with conflicting ambitions, perhaps not entirely personal and with divergent conceptions of what form and character should be given to the new governmental system. According to accounts yesterday, Villa has massed from 40,000 to 50,000 seasoned troops in Chihuahua and Sonora, many of them ex-Federalists.

The attitude of the United States Government is indicated in the Galician campaign was the capture of Jaroslau, in the North. This important fortification, behind which the retreating Austrian army of Grawos found a protection while its investment occupied the Russian attention, opened the country west of the San to the invading forces and gave them control of many miles of railroad. The Russian army also occupied another important railway centre on the Hungarian border, and moved toward Tarnow, on the north, occupation of which will afford complete mastery of communications to the west. The Russian advance on this ancient and strongly fortified city near the junction of the German, Austrian and Russian frontiers has been reported according to Petrograd official reports, which state that troops have penetrated to the outer fortifications. The famous university library has been removed to Vienna, 240 miles southwest, whither many of the inhabitants have fled.

Cracow is of vital importance, as its possessors control the road both to the German and to the Russian. Russian plan of campaign contemplates fulfillment of the Czar's threat of last week to enter Berlin at the head of his Breelan, which is 100 miles from Berlin, to which the Russians are preparing a winter march. The investment of Przemysl, still under heavy bombardment, has been left to a sufficient force, while the main Russian army reserves, bridged across the San in order to move through the marshy territory on the south, where the Austrians, under von Auffenberg, are endeavoring to shape their shattered forces for a last stand before falling back on Cracow. Occupation of Przemysl is no longer essential to the main Russian objective, Cracow, but after forcing passage into Hungary through the Carpathians, more than a million Russians are now active in Galicia, where the third great battle of the campaign is expected shortly.

Fighting in Galicia during the week has been confined to skirmishes, with the exception of the successful storming of Jaroslau. The Austrian War Office minimizes all reports of Russian progress and says that the San and the Vistula are prepared to take the offensive.

Paralleling the great conflict on the Aisne in point of numbers engaged and the extent of the fighting, the battle on the Poland-East Prussia border where Russia has massed a force of 1,200,000 men, means the shaking of the German campaign against Warsaw, which was announced early in the week to be General Hindenburg's objective. The Russians under Rennenkampf lined the enemy south to the Polish frontier, but on receiving heavy reinforcements from the interior have taken the offensive, as described. Success in this movement will open another road for the East-Prussians.

The chief naval engagement of the week was the destruction in the North Sea of three British cruisers by German submarines. It was stated in Berlin that a single submarine had wrought the havoc, but other reports said that the British lost more than 200 men, including many officers. The disaster followed immediately a statement from Winston Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty, saying that the German warships did not dare fight and were like "rats in a trap."

Japanese land forces have overcome difficulties of travel and marched upon the other fortifications of the German possession of Kiaochow. On Friday a terrific bombardment began. The German defenders replying vigorously. A mine in the harbor about Tsing-Tao evidently has kept the Japanese fleet at a distance during the week, however, Japanese ships have passed over the forts and inflicted minor damage to the forts.

China continues in a ferment because of the activities of war profiteers and the empire will yet be plunged into the conflict. Japan's disregard of neutrality has stirred the country. On Friday an announcement was made that the Japanese would construct a railroad on Chinese soil to transport troops for the war.

Drastic measures were taken by the President of China to stop warlike demonstrations, the arrest of all agitators being ordered.

Rumania trembles on the brink of war, and should that country take up arms in the Aisne's case, the great New York World would be precipitated into the conflict because of recent treaties that bind them to a common cause.

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Chicago News.

IT'S GOING TO BE AN INTERESTING WINTER

grouped under two general heads: How to get money into the public treasury and how to get it out.—Life.

Cutting the pork out of the rivers and harbors bill seems almost like cutting a pound of flesh from the next to the neck of many a statesman.—Indianapolis News.

There is one consolation. New York will not have any worry about ticket speculation at the world's championship series.—New York Sun.

Senator Burton won his great fight against the rivers and harbors bill without making a single humorous speech and about such his future conduct accordingly.—Ohio Journal.

It is a somewhat different view that is taken by the New York World: "The President is to be commended for his refusal to change his Mexican policy as a result of the reported quarrel between Carranza and Villa. So far as the United States is concerned these men represent the same idea. It is the principle of self-rule. If they must fight in order to settle the personal issue, the fact is to be regretted, but the principle remains the same."

That the revolt will be less serious than former ones is the opinion of the Washington Times, which remarks that the opposite opinion is a common estimate. The New York Times intimates that financial interests are behind Villa, and that in all probability the "angel," the principal backer is called, is the one who financed Carranza's revolution.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch hints strongly that an American oil syndicate is mentoring the new revolt. Declaring that it is not too late for the United States to intervene "psychologically," the Baltimore Sun advocates the tendering of the good offices of our Government to avoid bloodshed. Two opposite opinions of the President's Mexican policy, as published in the light of new events are those of the New York Tribune and the New Haven Independent. The Tribune asserts that it has utterly collapsed, while the Independent thinks that the outlook is reassuring and hopes for the founding of the opponents of "watchful waiting."

THE WEEK IN THE WAR

This week has seen the continuation, with unremitting vigor, of the fierce battle of the Aisne, now in its 14th day.

POLITICS IN PENNSYLVANIA

In politics the week brought about a start in the investigation of the primary campaign "slush fund" of Senator Penrose by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections, a stronger organization of the opposition to the Flinn-Van Valkenburg machine in the Washington party as the result of the Washington-Democratic fusion on the Governorship, and the announcement that Philander C. Knox will come to the aid of Senator Penrose in the campaign and that he is planning to be a candidate to succeed Senator Oliver in 1916.

The Senate Committee, meeting in Washington yesterday to decide whether the Senate shall investigate Senator Penrose's campaign fund, called before it several Philadelphians, among them the officials of the Pennsylvania Protective Union and the heads of the brewers and liquor dealers' associations.

Talk of fusion on the Senatorship was stopped on Tuesday when Gifford Pinchot, Washington party nominee for United States Senator, and A. Mitchell Palmer, Democratic nominee, each announced that he would not withdraw to combine the Democratic and Washington party fights against Penrose.

Washington party leaders in Philadelphia and several western counties, including Washington and Fayette, on Tuesday and Wednesday assured G. E. Quay, of Pittsburgh, who led the revolt against the Flinn-Van Valkenburg leadership following the completion of fusion with the Democrats on the Governorship, that opposition to the Flinn element is being well organized, and that Colonel Roosevelt will be appealed to in an effort to overthrow the present party leadership.

All during the week men of the standing of Isaac H. Clothier flocked to the standard of Dr. Martin G. Brumbaugh, Republican nominee for Governor in every county in the State. Doctor Brumbaugh continued his campaign through the central counties of the State. He called upon the people to stand up for Pennsylvania, and pledged the upholding of moral standards in politics as well as a business administration.

Philander C. Knox, it was announced on Wednesday, will enter the campaign on behalf of Senator Penrose, speaking at a Manufacturers' Club dinner on October 15, on the eve of Colonel Roosevelt's entry into the campaign. It became known on Tuesday that the former Secretary of the Manufacturers' Club in Philadelphia took this action to mean that Mr. Knox is preparing to be the Republican candidate to succeed Senator Oliver.

Representative Palmer carried his fight against Penrose and Penroseism into the anthracite regions. Starting on Tuesday, he daily took up new counts of his "indictment" against Penrose and on Wednesday drew from Penrose a reply in which Penrose called his attacks "carried, insincere and intentionally misleading."

POLITICAL BREVITIES

The voters of Virginia this week decided to put the State with the nine others in the "dry" column. State-wide prohibition, which will go into effect November 1, 1914, won by a majority of 55,000. The issue was decided by the country districts, though only four important cities voted in opposition to the constitutional amendment on which it hinged.

In the New Jersey primaries nearly all of the present congressional delegation of Wilson men were renominated. There were few contests for Governor. The Progressive vote was very light. Hardly one-third of the 600,000 registered voters in Massachusetts voted to the polls on primary day. Ex-Congressman Samuel W. McCall, who was renominated by the Republicans, Governor David I. Walsh was renominated by the Democrats and Joseph Walker, formerly Republican speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, was elected speaker of the Progressive. Congressman Gardner, in the Sixth District, was renominated by a narrow margin over A. Piatt Andrews.

At the Progressive convention in Delaware the Rev. George Edward Reed, former president of Dickinson College and at present pastor of the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church at Wilmington, was nominated for Congress.

IN PHILADELPHIA

A significant event was the beginning of work on the new highways at the Philadelphia Navy Yard, at which the Secretary of the Navy Daniels broke ground early in the week. The work is now going forward.

It has been announced that ships from New Orleans, Seattle and San Francisco are being carefully watched by Dr. Harte, director of the Health Department, in his effort to prevent an outbreak of the epidemic plague here. The disease is carried by rats.

In the textile trade conditions were considerably improved by the reopening of the mill in the large blanket and cloth orders from the Canadian and United States Governments.

The action of the Senate Commissioners in preparing an order requiring that the weight be stamped on each loaf of bread sold in this city was hailed as a victory for the local city organizations.

Councils at a special meeting, passed the \$100,000 loan bill, including, despite the Mayor's veto, the loan for a new Municipal Court building.

Frederick A. Poston, secretary of the Government Bankers' Association, was here this week, making a study of the affairs of banks in the city. It was announced that Philadelphia's share in the \$100,000,000 gold pool being floated to relieve the war situation will be \$2,000,000. National banks are to subscribe.

Two firms asked for receivers this week, and in one case, that of Merritt & Co., a Golden Loan concern, the reason given was the European war. The other firm is Irish Brothers, coal dealers of this city. The reason assigned being a desire to protect the assets of the firm.